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THE BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOL

Recorder.

VOL. II.] TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1895. [NO. 1.

TORONTO BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOL.

HOLDING FORTH THE WORD OF LIFE.

SCHOOL,
Lowther Avenue,
west of
Walmer Road.

OFFICERS.

*REV. ELMORE HARRIS, B.A., *President*, Betheden, Walmer Road, Toronto

*WM. FERGUSON, *Secretary*, 681 Spadina Ave., Toronto.

*JOSEPH N. SHENSTONE, *Treasurer*, 16 Walmer Road, Toronto.

*REV. WM. STEWART, D.D., *Principal*, 706 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.

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REV. R. WALLACE, Belleville.
REV. THOS. WARDROPE, D.D., Guelph.

*The members whose names are marked thus * form the Executive Council.*

The names of other friends in important centres are yet to be added to the General Council.

INSTRUCTORS AND LECTURERS FOR 1895-96.

REV. WM. STEWART, D.D.
REV. WM. MACWILLIAM, LL.B.
REV. ELMORE HARRIS, B.A.
REV. T. C. DES BARRES, M.A.
REV. W. J. ERDMAN, D.D.
REV. E. HOOPER, M.D.
REV. T. B. HYDE.
REV. D. MCTAVISH, D.Sc.
REV. W. G. MOOREHEAD, D.D.
REV. H. M. PARSONS, D.D.
M. STIFLER, D.D.

OUR DESIGN.—The great design of the School is the training of consecrated men and women for Christian service at home and abroad.

NO DEBT.—In carrying on the School, the Officers and Council desire not to incur any debt. They look to the Lord for the necessary means, as He may put it into the hearts of His people to give their freewill offerings.

CONTRIBUTIONS.—Any friends desiring to have fellowship in the work, may send their contributions to the Treasurer, 16 Walmer Road, Toronto, or to the Secretary, 681 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.

Attendance.

The second session of the School opened with a very encouraging attendance. The enrolment of regular students in the Day Classes up to the end of November has been 37, of whom 16 are young men. The enrolment in the Evening Classes at the same date is 101. Three of the Day students have had to leave on account of ill-health, much to their regret and ours; but we hope they will soon be enabled to resume their studies with us. The attendance at the Evening Classes has been more regular than last session, and a deep interest is taken in the more thorough course of study that is now pursued. We are thankful that so many consecrated young men and women are now receiving instruction in the School and we will gladly welcome others of similar spirit. Our earnest and prayerful desire is that the School may be used of the Lord to equip very many for effective service in every part of the world.

Special Lecturers.

The first of the special Lecturers for the present session was the Rev. W. J. Erdman, D.D., of Philadelphia. He gave two weeks of valued services both to the Day and Evening Classes. To the former he lectured on the Epistles to the Galatians and Colossians, giving an admirable analysis of both, while the latter were conducted through a thorough course of study on "The Glory of God." Many visitors attended the classes during Dr. Erdman's instructions.

The second of the special Lecturers was the Rev. Dr. Hooper, of Toronto, who gave a course of four studies on "The Tabernacle," illustrating his subject by an excellent model. The spiritual truths taught by the different parts and arrangements of the sacred place were clearly and impressively presented.

A third course of lectures on special aspects of Missionary work is now being given on alternate Fridays by Rev. R. P. Mackay, Foreign Mission Secretary of the Presbyterian Church. These are able, suggestive and peculiarly valuable to our students, who all have a deep interest in Missions, and many of whom are looking forward to labors in the Foreign Field.

The President of the School, Rev. Elmore Harris, begins this month a course of lectures to the Tuesday evening class on the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Occasional Lectures.

Very interesting lectures have been given to the students by Rev. A. S. Lamb, of the North African Mission, on Mohammedanism, and the Work among the Kabyles; by Mr. Horace Govan, on the Work of the Faith Mission of Scotland in the neglected districts of the old land; and by Rev. D. Herron, representing the Mission to the Lepers in India. The addresses of these experienced and devoted servants of the Lord have been found to be most instructive and stimulating.

The Library.

Several additional gifts have been presented to our little library, among which are some eighty books from Mr. J. D. Nasmith. A reading table with some excellent periodicals has been lately begun. Donations of suitable books and papers are much needed.

Regular Work of the School.

The following is the schedule of work in the Day Classes for the present term:—

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY.

9.00 to 9.50—New Testament Greek.
9.50 " 10.00—Opening Exercises.
10.00 " 10.10—Old Testament Exegesis } TWO CLASSES.
" " —Harmony of Gospels. }
10.10 " 11.20—New Testament, Outlines of Books.
11.20 " 12.00—Bible Doctrines.

Alternate Fridays—Lectures on Practical Work, and Missionary Addreises.

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY.

9.00 to 9.50—English.
9.50 " 10.00—Opening Exercises.
10 00 " 10.40—Evidences of Christianity.
10.40 " 11.20—Preparation for Bible Readings—LADIES.
" " —Homiletics—MEN.
11.20 " 12.00—Bible Doctrines.

A Devotional hour every Tuesday.

These classes are conducted by Dr. Stewart and Mr. MacWilliam. The lectures on Practical Work by Mr. Ferguson are a new and much appreciated feature of the course.

Evening Classes.

The Tuesday evening class has been engaged in the study of Bible Doctrines and Outlines of the New Testament Books, while the Thursday evening class has been occupied with the Harmony of the Gospels, and Old Testament Outlines.

Public Opening Meeting.

The public opening meeting of the Bible Training School was held in the Northern Congregational Church, of this city, on the evening of October 8th. The president, Rev. Elmore Harris, occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. Messrs. Hyde, Hooper, Denovan and Stewart took part in the proceedings, and Dr. Erdman delivered a very able address on Bible study. The meeting was profitable in itself, and helpful in bringing the work of the School before the Christian public of Toronto.

The subjects selected for the essays of the present term have been:—"The Messiah in the Pentateuch" "The Epistle to the Galatians" "The Attributes of God" and "The Missionary Journeys of Paul."

Students' Public Meeting.

The following is the programme of the first students' public meeting of the session, to be held in the lecture room of the Walmer Road Church, on the evening of Friday, December 6th :—

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.

The Power of Prayer ..... *J. H. Bryce.*
Paul, the Missionary ..... *Miss A. Fraser.*
Duet, "All for Jesus" ..... *Miss E. Richardson, and G. Beare.*
The Christian's Offering ..... *L. N. Sirrell.*
The Goodness of God ..... *Mrs. J. E. Watson.*
Quartette, "Help Me to be Holy" ..... *Messrs. Bryce, Burrell, Sirrell and Wilcox.*
The Claims of Missions ..... *J. W. Wilcox.*
God's Keeping Power ..... *Miss R. H. Wood.*
Solo, "God will Take Care of You." ..... *Miss E. Richardson.*

REMARKS AND FREE-WIL OFFERINGS.

Quartette, "The Whole Wide World for Jesus." *Messrs. Beare, Bryce, Burrell and Wilcox.*

BENEDICTION.

All friends of the School are cordially invited.

Need of Support.

THE following Statement of the work and claims of the School has been prepared by Mr. Ferguson. We trust it will receive the prayerful consideration of our readers :—

The School was started to give, free of any charge, a two years' course of preparation in Bible training and methods of practical work, to fit those for useful service in Mission work. either at home or abroad, who, having heard God's call to service, were yet unable to respond through lack of needful training.

It is interdenominational, and at present eight different denominations are represented among the students, who come from all parts of the Dominion. The Foreign Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, recognizing the need of such training, have decided to send their lady candidates to our School.

The intelligent interest of these earnest young people, as the truths of God's word are opened up systematically before them, and as they grasp what Bible study truly means, is most touching, and instances might be given of true blessing and inspiration received. If nothing else was attained than the careful study of the Scriptures by so many, and the sending of them forth to life's duty able rightly to divide the Word of Truth, a great work, in these days of doubt and unbelief, would be accomplished.

The expenses are considerable for instructors, special lecturers and incidentals, and we require for this session, 1895-6, $3000. We have no reserve fund, and have to look to the Lord's stewards to help us to carry on the work with their free-will offerings. So far, in donations from friends, we have had $1400 promised for this session's needs, and we hope you may see your way to help us to make up the balance of $1600, to enable us to carry on this work, which we feel sure is full of the deepest interest to our Saviour and His coming kingdom.

Summer Mission Work.

During the summer vacation, quite a number of the students were engaged in preaching the Gospel in different necessitous fields. Mr. C W. Higgins laboured in Sprucedale, Ont., and surrounding stations; Mr. Ed. Valiant i.. Royce Avenue, Toronto; Messrs. Burrell and Finch in Eastern Avenue Mission, Toronto; Mr. L. N. Sirrell in East Templeton, Que.; Mr. Jas. Currie in Lucknow, Ont. Mr. W. G. White, Bible Society colporteur, labored among the red men of the Tuscarora Reservation, not a few of whom were brought to the Saviour. On other fields, also, there was special blessing; while all the students had to rejoice in some seals to their ministry.

Correspondence Class.

A class of some ten young men formed in Brantford by the late Mr. T. M. Harris for Bible study, is now receiving outline lessons from the School on Bible doctrines and the preparation of Gospel addresses. Dr. Stewart hopes to visit the class two or three times during the session. The field of usefulness thus providentially opened may possibly lead to the formation of similar classes in other important centres.

Rev. Dr. Stifler of Crozer Sheological Seminary, Chester, Pa., is expected to lecture both to the Day and Evening Classes in the early part of February. Dr. Stifler is the author of an able work on the Acts of the Apostles, and one of the best Bible teachers on the continent.

The Student Volunteer Band.

Miss A. Fraser, Secretary of the Band, writes as follows:—We have, in addition to our regular work, organized this term a local branch of the "Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions." Miss Lyon, of Chicago, visited our School several months ago and spoke to us of this great movement, urging the students to form a Band in connection with the School. At the beginning of this term 3 students signed the declaration cards, pledging their lives for work in the foreign fields, if God permits. Since that time five more names have been added. We have a Prayer Circle in connection with the Band, and many of the students belong to this, as their work for the present seems to be at home, but they are one in heart with us. Two of our number joined the movement while at the Chicago Bible Institute. We purpose during the coming months to visit the Young People's Societies of the city and hold meetings, and in this way to win many more lives for that great work. We held the first of these meetings in the Queen Street Presbyterian Church on the 25th Nov.

Students may enter the School at any time.

The written examinations at the close of this term will be held Dec. 18th, 19th, and 20th.

Several new students are expected at the opening of the second term of the session on Monday, January 6th, 1896.

Receipts.

The following are the donations for the work received by the Treasurer since last acknowledgment:—

Previously acknowledged, $2,317.60.

No. 60 -	$ 5 00	No. 75 -	$ 25 00
No. 61 -	25 00	No. 76 -	5 00
No. 62 -	1 00	No. 77 -	5 00
No. 63 -	1 00	No. 78 -	10 00
No. 64 -	1 00	No. 79 -	50 00
No. 65 -	10 00	No. 80 -	5 00
No. 66 -	2 00	No. 81 -	1 00
No. 67 -	25 00	No. 82 -	10 00
No. 68 -	20 00	No. 83 -	250 00
No. 69 -	5 00	No. 84 -	10 00
No. 70 -	15 00	No. 85 -	5 00
No. 71 -	250 00	No. 86 -	25 00
No. 72 -	20 00	No. 87 -	5 40
No. 73 -	1 00		
No. 74 -	25 00	Total -	$3,130 00

The greater part of the funds received since last acknowledgment was used to pay the deficiency of the first year.

Joseph N. Shenstone,
Treasurer.

Practical Work of the Students.

All the students of the day classes continue to give a certain portion of their time every week to practical Christian work. In teaching Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes, in conducting Mission services, in filling preaching appointments, in hospital visitation, and in other lines of usefulness, the young men find ample employment. The young women also are busy, three of them being Bible women, two nurses of the sick, one a worker among the deaf and dumb, and others in different spheres are usefully employed in the Master's service. The weekly reports indicate that God's blessing is resting on all this varied labor.

Additions to the Council.

The following gentlemen, residing in different parts of the province, have kindly consented to act as members of the general council:—Revs. Dr. Wardrop of Guelph, F. E. Howitt of Hamilton, and R. P. Mackay of Toronto, with Mr. John Penman of Paris, and Mr. C. Cook of Brantford. These esteemed brethren have a deep interest in the work of the School, and we anticipate much benefit from their counsel and co-operation.

For the Foreign Field.

Miss Laura A. Wigle, B. A., a student of last session, has gone to Japan under the auspices of the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada.

In the last companies of missionaries sent out by the China Inland Mission were ten or twelve who have been regular or occasional students with us. These friends are constantly remembered by us in our prayers.

There will be a vacation of two weeks at Christmas, the lectures of the present term closing on Friday, Dec. 20th.

Dr. Erdman was greatly pleased with the earnest spirit of the students. He said it was a joy to him to lecture to such classes.

In addition to his weekly lecture to the evening class on the Epistle to the Hebrews, Mr Harris expects to begin in January a regular course of lectures to the Day Classes on the "History of Christian Missions." Rev. T. B. Hyde's course on the Acts of the Apostles, will also begin in January, and Dr. Parsons on "Dispensational Truths" and Dr. McTavish on the subject, "After the Exile" will follow later in the term.